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C. A. Boone

Boone's

EARLY ORANGE.

WHAT THE
People *AND* Press
HAVE TO SAY ABOUT IT.

The COMING ORANGE for all
Fruit Growers.

SOUTH FLORIDA SENTINEL PRINT.

"EUREKA."



Dr. Henry Foster, of Clifton Springs, N. Y., who has very extensive orange groves at Lake Charm Fla., and who has had large experience in marketing this valuable product at a railroad meeting in Orlando some years ago said: "If we could gather our oranges in October, England, with its teeming millions, would furnish our best market for this fruit.

This remark put me to thinking, and I began "looking around"; and in October, 1889, I FOUND IT, and could not help exclaiming "EUREKA." On November 29th, of the same year, I carried a basket of the oranges before the Executive committee of the Florida Horticultural Society at Sanford, and the following is an extract from their proceedings, published in the Florida Despatch and Fruit Grower, Dec. 12th of the same year, (see pages 1074 and 1075.)

Another Early Orange.

"On the 29 ultimo the Executive Committee of the Florida Horticultural Society met at Sanford, —Rev. Lyman Phelps, chairiman; Dudley W. Adams, president; E. O. Painter, secretary; and Mr. A. P. Manville, all of the Committee except Mr. George L. Taber. Mr. J. C. Clark, of the Ocala Semi-Tropical, and Mr. E. S. Hubbard, the well-known horticulturist and orange expert were present by invitation.

"After the routine of business was completed, Mr. Phelps introduced Mr. C. A. Boone, one of the leading business men of Orlando. Mr. Boone had upon his arm a large basket of oranges, which was placed before the Committee with an invitation to partake. Although the fruit had that peculiar deep hue indicative of ripeness, the Committee looked doubtful; it was evident that their teeth were all on edge from recent attempts in the same line and that even now they were groaning in spirit in sympathy with the abused 'consumer' of the North, whom, for the last month, we have insisted should revel in the delights of the golden (?) fruit. But Mr. Boone assured the Committee that in this instance appearances were not defective, but that the fruit was in reality ripe as it looked.

Many were the expressions of surprise and delight when the oranges were submitted to the test. They were thoroughly ripe and of good 'tone' and flavor, un- like the China

strain (Early Oblong, etc.), which has given us our early oranges thus far, all of which are more or less 'flat.' From the peculiar tint of the rind, as well as its conformation and the interior make-up of the fruit, it was at once pronounced of the 'blood' family, although there were no sanguinary flecks in the pulp. Mr. Hubbard thought he detected a grape fruit (pomelo) trace in the properties of the juice, and the probability of its having some grape fruit blood in its veins was further borne out by the peculiar arrangement of the seed. It had all the tenderness of pulp, delicacy of membrane and juiciness characteristic of the Malta family. At Mr. Boone's request that the Committee give it a name, it was called "Boone," after its introducer—the Boone orange.

He stated to the Committee that the tree had been recently brought to his attention on account of its earliness. It was an old tree and was evidently from imported seed or stock. The peculiarities of the orange are that it ripens fully four weeks before other varieties, possesses a fine, rich flavor and HAS BUT LITTLE PULP AND VERY FEW, if any seeds. THE COMMITTEE PRONOUNCED IT A DECIDED ACQUISITION."

I was very much encouraged by Rev. Lyman Phelps and other growers who have sampled the orange, and proceeded at once to propagate from the mother tree; but owing to the killing frosts of March, 1890, and April, 1891, I have made comparatively slow progress. In this connection I will say that my experience in late or summer budding has not been at all satisfactory. I consider the early spring and late fall the best time for budding, especially sour stock. A brief description of this orange, now called Boone's Early, is given by Mr. James Mott on pages 8 and 9 of his catalogue; and as a further evidence in support of our claim to HAVING THE EARLIEST GOOD ORANGE NOW KNOWN, the oranges were on August 22nd last beginning to color considerably.

In reference to its lasting qualities I will say that samples were taken from the tree in February last year and kept through March, retaining their juices and plump appearance till April. I have a few trees that were budded in July, 1890, ranging from 1½ to 2½ inches at the ground, with fine roots and buds well grown; and a larger number budded since in stock, ranging from ¾ to 2 inches. Prices given on application. I have a limited number of choice stock budded with **Hart's Tardiff, Mediterranean Sweet, Washington Navel, Homosassa, Red Tangierine, Jaffa, Majorica, Stark's Favorite, Maltese Blood, St. Michael's Blood**, and the **Parson Brown**, which is, by the way, another early orange, but not so early as the Boone; and a few **Satsumas**, and the famous **Aurantium Pomelo**, better known as Mott's Grape Fruit; also a few hundred fine seedling grape fruit trees, from one to four years old.

I will be pleased to quote prices on any of the above and will guarantee prompt attention to orders, and that every thing will "turn up" as represented. I have a limited number of Boone's Early buds at ~~\$5 per hundred.~~

C. A. BOONE,

Orlando, Florida.

Boone's Early a Golden Bonanza.

Mr. C. A. Boone of this city, has certainly struck a "golden" bonanza in the production of his early orange, which is at the head of the lists. Unlike the Sweet Seville, which is also a very early orange, Boone's Early retains its flavor and juice with long keeping, and does not dry up like the former, being just as good and marketable at the present time as when first fully ripe, which is about October 10th. It is of medium size, thin skin, very little core, and very few, if any seeds. It is pretty in shape and excellent in quality, and ripening as it does a month or six weeks ahead of any other, is doubly valuable, especially for sections of frost danger.—Orlando Daily Record, Feb. 21, 1891.

Thinks it a Valuable Acquisition.

Dr. G. Devron of New Orleans, says in a letter to James Mott, Oct. 19,: "Yours of 15th with two of Boone's Early oranges at hand. I have for the last two or three weeks been eating oranges from my own farm (and I have some very fine and early oranges) but the Boone's Early was much riper and sweeter. I think it a valuable acquisition."

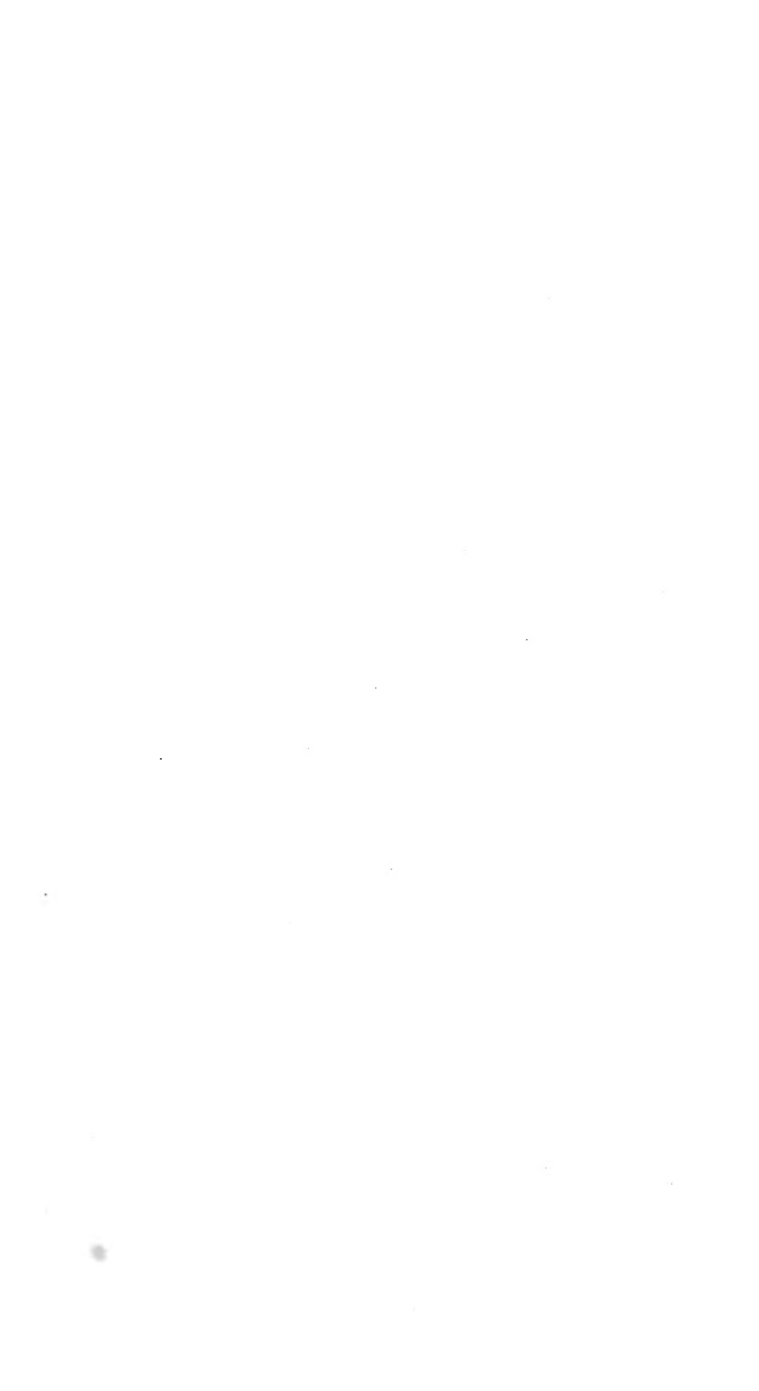
Mr. Boone brought samples of this orange to the Record and the editor heartily endorses Dr. Devron's verdict.—Daily Record, Oct. 23, 1891.

A Letter to The Farmer and Gruit Grower.

ORLANDO, FLA., OCT. 23, 1891.

EDITOR FARMER AND FRUIT GROWER:

I have just expressed to you at Lawtey a small box containing eight oranges. Six of them are of the variety, which was on 29th of November, 1889, at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Florida Horticultural Society, at Sanford, called "Boone," in honor of myself, but, on account of its earliness, it has been known and called "Boone's Early." Two of the oranges I send you are the ordinary seedling or China orange growing on the same kind of land as the Boone's Early. I have had a great many inquiries concerning this orange, and to answer all separately takes considerable time. There are so many schemes and tricks being practiced now-a-days a great many people are slow to believe even half what they see. so I thought I would send you a few samples of this orange, and if you thought it worthy of mention



in the columns of your valuable paper you could tell your readers that you have seen and tested it, and give them your opinion, etc.

No doubt that there are oranges at some places in the State almost as ripe as this, but they grow on altogether a different kind of soil. The "Parson Brown," which has been considered, heretofore, one of the earliest oranges, growing alongside of this orange has just only begun to color, and the ordinary orange is yet without any color whatever (except a pure green).

Yours very truly,

C. A. BOONE,

P. S.—I will state, however, that these oranges were taken from the tree day before yesterday and have had no artificial coloring.

C. A. B.

The Editor's Opinion in Reply.

The oranges were fully colored, though they were not attractive in appearance, being somewhat clouded with smut. But in quality they were good, and, considering their earliness, very good; dense and heavy in the hand, CRAMMED full of juice which approaches very closely to the PERFECT blending of acid and sugar. None of the dead, characterless sweet usually found in early oranges. Peel tough and protective. A thoroughly good, piquant, after-dinner orange, uniting to its earliness so many elements of genuine value as to render it worthy of cultivation.—ED.

Ahead of Anything He Had Ever Seen.

While in Orlando a few days ago we were invited by Mr. Boone to sample some oranges from a basket in his store. We have on various occasions sampled the Parson Brown, Beach Early and Sweet Seville, all said to be earlier than other oranges, but have invariably been disappointed in the fruit. When we looked at Boone's Early orange we did not expect anything better. So we were surprised when we tasted this orange to find that it was ahead of anything we had yet seen. The fruit was well colored, juice sweet, and flesh well matured. Not only was it as ripe as oranges usually are with us about the 10th of November, but it was a superior orange in every respect. The rind has a peculiar tint, as also the flesh. It is thin skin, almost seedless, pulp very tender and very little "rag." Mr. Boone informed us that the oranges before us were grown on cold land; and he was confident that on our soils it would be much earlier than with him, as his ordinary fruit growing alongside was perfectly green. This orange is certainly a great acquisition, and should be planted extensively by our growers. It is unquestionably the earliest orange in these parts. Think of picking oranges the first of October ripe enough for any one to eat. Dr. Foster may live long enough yet to see ripe oranges going to England in October by the ship load.—Oviedo Chronicle, Oct. 30, 1891.

Superior to All Others.

TANGERINE, FLA., NOV 5, 1891.

MR. C. A. BOONE,

MY DEAR SIR.—The Boone's Early which you were kind enough to send me by my neighbor, Mr. Wright, were promptly on hand. We tested them and the Parson Brown, also the satsuma, side by side, and we were agreed that the Boone is superior in early coloring and more character to its flavor. Though at first taste both Parson Brown and Satsuma seem sweeter, yet a critical taste will readily note that their apparent sweetness is owing to a lack of acid which renders the general effect decidedly flat or insipid. I have no doubt the Boone contains more actual sugar than either but it is to some extent concealed by its acid which to my taste is slightly too prominent at the present time, though I have no doubt it will please all who like a piquant flavor, and that a few weeks more time will soften its rather free acid to suit the most delicate taste. I thank you for your kindness in sending these specimens and shall be sure to want some trees or buds in the proper season.

Yours truly,

DUDLEY W. ADAMS.

Boone's Early Orange.

One of the considerations which have interested orange growers for many years is an earlier and a later orange than those cultivated by the early settlers. The Tardiff or Hart's Late, seems to have come in at about the right point to supply the late variety. The Tardiff is at its best in the months of May and June. Boone's Early matures and is ready for use in October and November. This orange seems to be the result of some cross. It was found in fruit by Mr. Boone two or three years ago. He at once saw it was desirable and purchased the original tree. Specimens of the fruit were submitted to leading fruit growers and at once met with their approval and endorsement. It was too early to make a noise about it but Mr. Boone at once began systematic and extensive propagation. In the meantime he has watched the fruit to ascertain if its early ripening was reliable. It has proved reliable and the quality of the fruit is such as to recommend it to popular favor. Mr. Boone now has several thousand budded trees of this variety, and he also has a very flattering prospect of a bonanza out of it.—Orange County Reporter, Nov. 12, 1891.

As An Early Shipper.

In support of the argument in favor of an early orange, I will say that I only had ten boxes of my early to ship last year which I shipped in October and after deducting all expenses, they netted me \$1.60 per box ON THE TREE. I have shipped nearly 2,000 boxes of the ordinary orange since then and have realized from five cents to seventy-five cents per box on the tree.

C. A. BOONE.

